

Message Text

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SUBJ: DANISH REACTION SOVIET DISSIDENTS

FOR: IOR/M

1. DANISH CONCERN OVER RECENT TREATMENT OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS
FRONTPAGED IN BERLINGSKE TIDENDE (CONSERV.) WEDNESDAY WITH
TEXT OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT RELEASED BY GOVERNMENT (SEPTTEL).

2. GOVERNMENT PROTEST AGAINST SOVIET SUPPRESSION OF INTEL-
LECTUALS FILLED MAJOR PORTION MAIN DANISH TV NEWS PROGRAM
TUESDAY EVENING, AHEAD OF REPORT OF COMMON MARKET
MINISTERIAL MEETING HERE. PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN, IN FILMED
INTERVIEW, SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT WOULD
LEAD TO CANCELLATION HIS PLANNED VISIT TO SOVIET UNION IN
OCTOBER. BUT HE SAID PROTEST WOULD NATURALLY BE INCLUDED IN
DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET LEADERS. JORGENSEN SAID GOVERNMENT
STATEMENT WAS BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM DANISH
EMBASSY MOSCOW.

3. IB NORLUND, DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARY, WAS
INTERVIEWED FOLLOWED JORGENSEN. HE DESCRIBED DANISH STATE-
MENT AS IMPROPER INTERFERENCE IN SOVIET AFFAIRS. HE
CLAIMED BOTH SAKHAROV AND SOLZHENITZIN WERE AGAINST DETENTE
AND THAT SOVIET OFFICIAL REACTION TO THEIR ACTIVITIES IS THEREFORE
NATURAL. NORLUND ASKED WHAT RESULT WOULD BE IF WE CALLED
WATERGATE A MESS AND USED IT AS ARGUMENT AGAINST DETENTE.
NORLUND STRESSED THAT COUNTRIES WORKING FOR DETENTE SHOULD NOT
INTERFERE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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4. TV NEWS ALSO INDULUDED REPORTS FROM AUSTRIALIA AND AUSTRIA WHERE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE CRITICIZED SOVIET SUPPRESSION OF DISSIDENT INTELLECTUALS.

5. EKSTRA BLADET (TABLOID) EDITORIALY CRITICIZED DANISH PROTEST AS TOO MILD. EXCERPTS: QUOTE IT IS DEPRESSING THAT DANISH GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CALL THINGS BY THEIR RIGHT NAME. FEAR OF THE OFFICIAL SOVIET REACTION MUST NOT KEEP OFFICIAL DENMARK FROM PROTESTING SERIOUSLY AND DIRECTLY WHEN IMPORTANT LIBERTIES ARE BRUTALLY SUPPRESSED. MAYBE PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN IS AFRAID OF CHALLENGING KREMLIN IMMEDIATELY BEFORE HIS TRIP TO SOVIET UNION, BUT DENMARK'S SOLIDARITY MUST FIRST AND FOREMOST AIM AT FREEDOM AND NOT AT POLITICAL CONVENIENCE UNQUOTE.

6. JYLLANDS-POSTEN (INDEPENDENT) -- IN EDITORIAL WRITTEN PRIOR DANISH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT URGED GOVERNMENT TO WARN MOSCOW THAT ITS TREATMENT OF CRITICS AND MINORITIES CAN PREVENT PROGRESS TOWARD GREATER DETENTE IN EUROPE. SUCH AN ACTION, PAPER SAID, WOULD HAVE GREATEST WIEGHT IF ALL EEC MEMBERS PARTICIPATED AND WARNING MUST BE SHARP AND CATEGORICAL, STATING THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST WOULD BE POINTLESS UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THE RUSSIANS. HELLER

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